

## **Amendmend to the Abstract**

### **Abstract**

An apparatus for channel interleaving comprises a spatial birefringent element device assembly and a reflector which is configured so as to direct light from the spatial birefringent element device assembly back through the spatial birefringent element device assembly. The spatial birefringent element device assembly comprises at least one spatial birefringent element device. Directing light from the spatial birefringent element device assembly back through the spatial birefringent element device assembly substantially mitigates cross-talk and/or dispersion of the apparatus for channel interleaving in communications.